GOVERNOR HOGAN: Very well. Thank you very much. I think

maybe we'll start off by let's hear from the opposition, from Mr. William Collins,

and then we'll move on to the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association.

MR. COLLINS: Yes, good morning to all. I guess the first issue

I'd like to bring up is that my involvement with this has been fairly truncated

because the notification was not sent out until, to me, until two weeks ago, until

Saturday of a week before last. And I've ramped myself up to speed as quickly as

possible to be able to address what are my concerns.

As far as support or opposed, I'm not either. I'm certainly not

anti-fishing, or anti-beach going, or anti-fun. The movement seems to be to

convert or annex a traditional wetlands into a community amenity. The amount of

traffic that has been on the property for many, many years is ever increasing. And

the, it's my humble opinion, the erosion that exists is mainly caused by or

exacerbated by the amount of foot traffic on the dune. And certainly the aerial

photographs that were provided for me from the engineers themselves would

certainly bear that out.

The proposed structure is, the proposed disturbance area is 1,000

feet long. It is going to place 5,000 square feet of permanent structure on the

bottom of the Magothy River and the limited area of disturbance is about the size

of an aircraft carrier. The proposed structure is about two and a half car lengths

from my beach that I maintain and have maintained for the past 30 years with my

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grasses and we stay off the dune and we maintain the beach itself, the structure

being that close in proximity to my beach that has sustained weather conditions.

We enjoy, as documented, we enjoy land accretion and have over the past 30

years or so. The opposite side there does not. The proposed structure, again, very

large in a very sensitive environmental space is, I've been given a lot of claims

from the folks that have done the proposal, but have not been given, I've asked

repeatedly for supporting documents and supporting studies from either wildlife

or sand shift or proposed certainly wave redirect action, and have not received

any.

The two items that, the other item, certainly, the ongoing

maintenance of the flows of debris from the Conowingo and from the

Susquehanna have always been a big issue for us because we get a lot of that.

And obviously, the panel knows that the Annapolis area has had some issues with

that just in the past couple of years in a big way. The answer back to that to me

was that, from the engineers, is that we're well out of the flow area for that. Well,

I've got debris on my beach from as far north as the Sunbury Dam that is labeled

that is 100 miles north of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. So the extent of this

proposed structure is going to create a great big funnel and pull it into the end of

the navigable waterway.

So, which brings to me, quickly, the two issues that Mr. Morgante

said that he was not as interested in or outside the scope, I put these in and

mentioned that they are a little outside the scope, however worth mentioning. The safety of the use of the channel, because there are so many more, over the years, so many more people using the channel as swimming and bathing and sunbathing and certainly boat traffic and kayaking and all of the recreational parts of things. The young people, the little guys, they come out to run out and line up on the end of that bulkhead to climb up onto the piling and jump into the water is increasing, ever increasing. The rip tide that rolls through there, we've certainly had drownings here, even in recent years, and the lack of supervision and the enticement that not only the existing structures and the existing beach create, but also the proposed structure, without addressing that, I think that moving forward without, and again, I'm not for or against, but without addressing that I think that's reckless.

The other part of the proposal for the structure itself, the living shoreline was given a waiver and for reasons that I won't go into. But everybody has their research on that. The proposed structure put as many rocks out there as you want and pay as much money to do that as you want. But if they don't limit and channel the amount of traffic on the dune itself, and like they do in New Jersey and certainly on the Delaware and Maryland Shore, that if that's not done in conjunction with the structure then the erosion problem I don't believe is going to be abated.

Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Collins. And

now we'll hear from Beau Breeden, who is from the Cape St. Claire Improvement

Association.

MR. BREEDEN: Thank you, Governor. Thank you for the

opportunity to speak today. My name is Beau Breeden. I am the Beaches and

Parks Chair for the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association. We are a

socioeconomic diverse community of nearly 8,000 residents located on the shores

of the Magothy River and Chesapeake Bay. I'm here representing our community

to help finalize these permits and move forward with our living shoreline project.

For most of the last decade our community has worked and strived

to be better stewards of our environment. We have put forth countless volunteer

hours into bettering our community owned properties to improve local

ecosystems, water health, and restore more native and resilient shorelines due to a

number of challenges. This project before you is one of seven sites we hope to

restore in the near future to help accomplish these goals.

In 2016, we hired Biohabitats to assess the community owned

properties and potential projects. After listening to community priorities, working

with federal, State and county agencies, and hiring two engineering firms,

Biohabitats and Sustainable Science, to study and design our projects we have

moved forward towards funding these projects.

Our story in Cape St. Claire is one where we have put forth countless work hours, but also the residents have voted for a special community benefit district budget process to fund and design this project, spending nearly \$200,000 and dedicating up to \$650,000 to help secure additional matching funding. We have created partnerships with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, been awarded more than \$298,000 from the Chesapeake Bay Trust and Anne Arundel County grants, secured a 2019 bond bill grant, and most recently DNR Capital Waterway Improvement Funding, in working with our elected State delegation of Senator Reilly, and Delegates Bagnall, Saab, and Malone. We have forged partnerships with support from local organizations such as the Little Magothy River Association, Cape Conservation Corps, Goshen Farm Preservation Society, among other committed partnerships with local scouting groups to help planting the new habitat during the course of this project. We as a community are striving to help protect and restore our eroding shorelines through the challenges of the stronger storms, more frequent storms, the impacts of the shipping channel of the Chesapeake Bay, along with other natural challenges.

We have worked diligently through the permit process for the last two years with multiple agencies and look forward to moving our project to construction stage. We believe this community led effort and multi-organization partnership will not only benefit our 8,000 residents of Cape St. Claire, but help improve the Magothy Watershed for generations to come.

Thank you for your time. I'll be happy to answer any questions.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Breeden. I

also understand that we have two project designers on the line, Joe Berg from

Biohabitats, Albert McCullough from Sustainable Science. And from MDE we

have Assistant Secretary Suzanne Dorsey, Eastern Regional Chief of Tidal

Wetlands John Stewart, and Project Reviewer Matt Wallace. I think let's go

ahead and hear from Suzanne Dorsey first, and then if she wants to call on any of

her colleagues, and then if anybody has any questions of anybody.

DR. DORSEY: Good morning. This is Suzanne Dorsey, Assistant

Secretary at MDE. We appreciate the close scrutiny of this project. We have

reviewed it and worked with both parties on this issue and find that the revisions

that have been put forward by the Community Association address the needs

brought up by the property owner. We did, we were able to get him an

appropriate time the notification. As he is across the inlet from this property, he

is not exactly an adjacent property. But we recognize that he's very close and it's

certainly in his community. So we took his concerns very seriously.

I think he raises some really important issues for the community to

consider. Certainly, dune protection is a valuable and important opportunity and

we encourage him to pursue that with the Community Association through

education processes. The partnerships that the community has forged with Boy

Scouts and Girl Scouts are an example of how that can be achieved.

We have reviewed this very carefully in collaboration with Bill

Morgante, and we believe that it's an appropriate exercise of the riparian rights of

the community and that it will provide benefits from erosion as well as an

important use of a tool, the living shoreline, which has co-benefits including

carbon sequestration. So we support moving this permit through. I'm happy to

answer any questions or allow John Stewart to talk to the specifics of it.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any questions?

TREASURER KOPP: Yes, Ms. Dorsey, could I just add, do you

have any comments on the concern regarding the inadequacy of protection against

storm surge?

DR. DORSEY: I don't have any concerns about it. I think that the

design is appropriate to the needs of this community. Storm surge can and will be

a threat to any coastal community. The design as it's laid out will offer

appropriate support for this community. You know, I don't think that we have

any significant concerns. That isn't to say, however, that a large storm can't and

won't produce damage should that occur.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any other questions? Okay. Thank you

very much. I'd like to call up Items 14 and 15. I understand the Maryland

Environmental Service is requesting approval of two architecture and engineering

contracts to convert the cogeneration facility at Eastern Correctional Institute

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from burning debarked wood chips and fuel oil to operate on clean natural gas.

This project will provide a cleaner and more reliable source of fuel for the

Department of Public Safety and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The

project will spur regional economic development, creating jobs while bringing

lower energy prices to the residents and businesses on the Eastern Shore.

We've been working very diligently to expand their alternative energy options and there is immense support for this project. We've heard from everyone, from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore President Heidi Anderson, to the President of the Somerset County Commissioners Craig Mathies, to Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes. We have with us the new Director of the Maryland Environmental Service on the line. I want to say to Charles Glass, welcome to your first Board of Public Works meeting in your new capacity. I have here with me your predecessor Roy McGrath, who has left you big shoes to fill. He's now my Chief of Staff. He did a great job there at MES and Charles, we're very happy to have you with us. We also have some speakers signed up to speak on this first. We're going to hear from Anthony Field for the Chesapeake Climate Action Network.

MR. FIELD: Hello, and thank you. Good morning. My name is Anthony Field and I'm a Coordinator with the Chesapeake Climate Action Network. Thank you for this opportunity to address the Board. I know you all have a very busy day ahead of you.

Later on today, you will be asked to make deep and painful budget

cuts to critical services such as public education, childcare, and healthcare. At the

same time, the Board is being asked to vote on a proposal to invest half a million

dollars to retrofits at the Eastern Correctional Institution. These investments

would allow the State facility to begin to convert its heating operations to burning

fracked gas. The Eastern Correctional Institution will be an end user of two

pipelines that have not yet been fully permitted. We understand that this is the

first step in a multistep process of converting the facilities to gas. Regardless, we

still believe the investments you are being asked to make today are premature at

best.

Given the State's commitment to clean energy and greenhouse gas

reductions, CCAN is further concerned that investments in gas are harmful to the

climate and an unwise investment overall. Even if the steps are preliminary,

additional investments in gas get us closer to being locked in a reliance on this

harmful fossil fuel. Specifically, we are requesting that you vote no on Agenda

Items 14 and 15, or at a minimum that you defer these investments to a more

appropriate future meeting. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Next up is

Somerset County Commissioner Randy Laird.

MR. LAIRD: Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, and

Treasurer Kopp, on behalf of the Board of Somerset County Commissioners, we

strongly support this project to extend natural gas, to help extend natural gas to our county. This project in my opinion will help the carbon footprint by eliminating dirty fuels, like wood chips and other petroleum products. We're not alone in this. We have overwhelming support from other local stakeholders, including the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Somerset County Public Schools, Somerset County Economic Development Commission, the Town of Princess Anne, Pocomoke City, Worcester County Commissioners, Wicomico County Council President Larry Dodd, and the Tri-County Council of the Lower Eastern Shore. We'd also like to express our thanks to Senator Mary Beth Carozza and Delegate Charles Otto for their support on this project.

This expansion will bring natural gas to our county for the first time. In order to compete with other counties and jurisdictions, we need this for economic growth. It's hard to compete with counties that have natural gas because they can offer these companies a lot cheaper product to run their business. Therefore, I respectfully ask that you approve the two contracts and continue to support the success of Somerset County. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Commissioner. I appreciate you being with us. Now we have a private citizen, Andrew Hinz.

MR. HINZ: Good morning, everyone. Thank you -- can you hear me now?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yes.

MR. HINZ: Good morning, everyone. Thank you very much for

this opportunity to participate. I am a lifelong resident, taxpayer, and utility

ratepayer in the State of Maryland. I'm 68 years old now almost. I am requesting

that you either reject this half a million dollar expenditure or put it off to a later

date, and for three reasons. I'll try to be brief.

The first reason is because of the current COVID pandemic and the

current economic crisis, I believe we have many, many more pressing priorities

for a half a million dollars investment of this kind.

Second, we are in a climate crisis. It's not impending, it is here.

We are living it right now. Every pound of methane and CO2 that we put into the

atmosphere will result in a life lost somewhere in the planet. That is a fact. We

have exceeded our limit for these kinds of gases in the atmosphere. So we are

doing more harm with this. So Maryland is particularly vulnerable to the effects

of the climate crisis and for that reason it is also bad.

Finally, my third reason that I would like you to not approve this

for, especially to delay it, is that the timing of this, two days before the Fourth of

July holiday, when it is setting in motion a chain of events that will put enormous

pressure on the Public Service Commission to approve these two fracked gas

pipelines is irresponsible. We all know the overwhelming support from the

citizens of Maryland for climate change action now, not later. This is now. This

is the time to take the action, right now. So I think the timing of this and setting

these things in motion right now has the appearance, has the appearance of an

ethics compromise in my mind. I'm not saying it is, but it has the appearance.

And for that reason also, it should be at least delayed.

So thank you very much for listening to me and I appreciate the

time. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Next up is Michael Folkoff

from Wicomico Environmental Trust.

DR. FOLKOFF: Good morning, Board. I'm Mike Folkoff. I

represent the Wicomico Environmental Trust, as well as the county in which the

pipelines are going to pass through. But the question at the moment is to the logic

of approving this expenditure when the pipelines have not yet been fully

permitted. We stand some chance as the future holds of not only not having the

pipelines, but also we see, although it's controversial at the moment and there is

some people who don't think so, that the future is not in natural gas, it's not in

fossil fuel, it's in alternate energy sources. And those alternate energy sources are

not far away. They are around the corner. And many people are thinking they

will be here even sooner than we might think, given the current technological

advances.

In this time of COVID when money is so precious and the budgets

are so tight, to approve this under those circumstances and leave behind stranded

assets, as well as other problems, it doesn't seem logical, to at least postpone this

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proceed to the end.

Thank you very much for hearing me. I appreciate your

consideration.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yes, thank you very much. Next we're

going to hear from former Senator Jim Mathias, who is the Director of

Government Relations for the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

MR. MATHIAS: Good morning, Governor, and good morning,

Madam Treasurer and Mr. Comptroller, and I just want to say how humbled and

honored I am to be here this morning representing, to be with you, but also

representing most importantly President Dr. Heidi Anderson, the President of the

University of Maryland Eastern Shore, an HBCU. And we thank you so much for

the good work that you do.

Although you, you know, we're here from UMES, and you hear

that the Items are 14 and 15, we ask for your favorable support because we're

kind of partners. In the pro forma, it was our diligence that really enabled

Chesapeake to bring this project in. As end users, UMES and ECI will make

certainly a much more affordable and a cleaner fuel, a cleaner fuel with less

emissions. We will take diesel trucks off the road that deliver our product now.

And this is a good pragmatic choice that we ask you to make. You know, please,

respectfully (indiscernible). You know, UMES has been recognized as an

environmental leader by a magazine, University Magazine. You may remember

we were, when modestly I was in Community Jurisdiction in the Senate Finance

Committee, we were leaders working to make land based wind turbines happen in

Somerset County, Pioneer Green. And we were right on the cusp of that

happening when Patuxent River, when our defense contractor stepped up and said

that that would be awkward. We have a solar array there. Not awkward, it would

really be harmful to their business model there down at Patuxent River. And that

project was sadly defeated at that time.

What I'm trying to say to you is, with our solar array, certainly we

generate about a 2.2 megawatt energy for our consumption there. We do other

things. And this clearly will allow us to be a clean end user and a best corporate

citizen and a university citizen for our environment.

Respectfully, I ask for your favorable report. And as the summer

goes forward, Governor and Madam Treasurer and Comptroller, on behalf of

President Anderson, I invite you to the campus. Please come down. You know,

we're LEED certified. Our aviation engineering building is LEED certified. We

have geothermal. And I look forward to seeing you on campus and respectfully, I

have to say this, I look forward to seeing you on the Shore in my hometown,

Ocean City, Maryland. Thank you so much and have a wonderful Fourth of July.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you --

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TREASURER KOPP: Governor, could I ask the Senator a question?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Sure.

TREASURER KOPP: Or maybe you, I don't know. Has anyone gone back, did anyone go back to the Navy after they nixed the plans for the wind turbines?

MR. MATHIAS: If I could, I have to tell you that it was the first time and the only time that our dear friend the Majority Leader Steny Hoyer --

TREASURER KOPP: -- I remember it well --

MR. MATHIAS: I remember it too. I was the last standing Democrat, Madam Treasurer. Everybody kind of left me in the lurch there. But he promised me that we would be able to work this out. To date, we have broached that a few times. That has not been able to happen, I'll be very honest with you. But I have his good pledge to go forward. But this is important --

TREASURER KOPP: -- pursued alternative renewables --

MR. MATHIAS: -- well, we have as I have illustrated --

TREASURER KOPP: -- what you have.

MR. MATHIAS: Yes. And again, I like to say practical and pragmatic. This is a practical and pragmatic decision to move forward. And you know, the one thing that we're struggling with today are these budget cuts. The savings, the savings that this will allow. And as an HBCU, every dollar is

critically important. It will go to the bottom line, our first generation students.

It's critically important. As we are recovering from COVID, we don't know the

depths of it. But I want you to know this, on behalf of President Heidi Anderson,

we are a solid partner and we appreciate the work that you do.

And I just have to say this as a person that has been, that I too,

Governor, share Treasurer Kopp's glee in your good health report. And you

understand where I'm coming from, I won't belabor it. But God bless you and

all.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well, thank you very much, Senator. And

--

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Governor, can I --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- last but not least, we're going to hear

from Charles Glass, who it may be his first Board of Public Works meeting but

we're going to have him be the last speaker. Oh I'm sorry, was there a question?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No, I just wanted to thank

Senator Mathias for his long career in public service and say, personally, I happen

to think as much as I love UMES, they are lucky to have you, Senator. And just

keep being a champion for the Eastern Shore.

MR. MATHIAS: Thank you, and I'm grateful for our relationship.

Thank you so much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'll second that, too, Mr. Comptroller.

Mr. Glass?

DR. GLASS: Good morning, Governor Hogan, Madam Treasurer,

and Mr. Comptroller. For the record, my name is Charles Glass, and I am the new

Director of the Maryland Environmental Service. I am humbled and honored by

the appointment of the Governor to this position, and I look forward as an

environmental engineer and as engaged in Maryland to continue to move forward

the administration's goals and the goals of the Climate Change Commission, for

which I have been a part of the Adaptation Response Working Group and the

Scientific Technical Working Group for the last few years, and both positions as

Assistant Secretary at the Maryland Department of Transportation and as Deputy

Secretary at the Department of Natural Resources.

These two contracts are critical to advancing improvement of the

boilers at the Eastern Correctional Institution. The system is already 30 years old

and has reached its useful life. The current debarking and wood chipping uses a

lot of diesel fuel for the production of the wood chips and for the delivery to the

site. In addition, this is a 365/24/7 operation and the residents of the ECI really

rely on that heating that comes from this boiler. Technology has moved a long

way in the last 20 years, 30 years, and there are a lot more advances on the way.

I'm not here to really discuss the pipeline in particular, but I would

like to acknowledge the fact that Chesapeake Utilities has entered a partnership

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with Bioenergy Development Corporation to bring renewable natural gas to

customers on the Delmarva Peninsula. This was announced about a month ago.

It's been done in partnership with MES with my predecessor, developing this

opportunity. The company is based in Howard County. And this is really a new

way of especially, Madam Treasurer, for the anaerobic digestion of all the food

waste that's produced down on the Lower Eastern Shore. It actually is a carbon

negative technology, where if you are familiar with anaerobic digestion, there will

be a solid inert component of carbon that's the result of anaerobic digestion as

well as the production of biogas. And that material can be placed in the soil,

nutrient rich and carbon, as I say, carbon negative in storage.

So with that, I'll answer any questions. I do have my Managing

Director for Environmental Operations Steven Tomczewski and Chief Engineer

of Water/Wastewater Ellen Frketic to assist me with any answers that, given my

recent appointment, that I am unable to answer. But thank you very much for

your time. I'm here to answer any questions.

TREASURER KOPP: I do, Governor --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: It sounds like you are up to speed already.

You know, you didn't waste any time, you know, taking over from that guy,

McGrath.

TREASURER KOPP: Can I ask Dr. Glass a couple of questions?

It's good to see you there. And I know that you have been an active leader on the

Climate Change Commission and its work groups. So I'm asking you that, in the

context of the concerns that we have heard about increasing use of fracked gas in

your area and the question of methane leakage because of new pipelines, etcetera.

Could you or some of your people address that? Because we know the situation

isn't good now. We know something has to be done. The question is whether

this is the least harmful and the critics say that it's encouraging fracked gas. You

talk about renewable natural gas. Which is it?

DR. GLASS: So, you know, the critical issue is having the

infrastructure to move forward into the next phase on all of these projects. You

know, anaerobic digestion and production of biogas as a renewable natural gas is

not new in wastewater treatment. And this, the company, Bioenergy

Development Corporation, has over 200 facilities around the world and is just

launching operations in Maryland. With the pipeline in place as a distribution

network, it will be able to accept this renewable natural gas. And just like your

electricity at home, the customers, MES is just the engineers of record on this

project.

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

DR. GLASS: The customer is the Eastern Correctional Institution

and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, will have the choice to select their

natural gas purchase. So even though the entire system will have this natural gas

in place, customers will be able to choose their natural gas source, at least the

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money that goes to further invest in the projects. Just as you can choose on your

Pepco bill, I'm assuming, you can choose wind or solar or renewables. And if

there is a differential in cost, you choose to pay that difference. But the customers

will be able to make that choice with the natural gas and the natural gas sourcing.

So this is a shift in the natural gas industry. I am not an engineer, energy

engineer. However, I have read recent documents, including from the United

Nations, that suggest that this is a path forward.

In addition, for this infrastructure to be in place, if hydrogen fuel

cell technology advances and becomes the final energy for distribution, then this

pipeline would allow Somerset County to participate in that. And without it, they

would be having trucked (indiscernible). I know that there is a busy Agenda and I

just want to be brief in my responses.

TREASURER KOPP: I'm not quite sure I understand the response.

But Governor, you are on record, as the State is, not wanting fracking here and

not wanting to be dependent on fracked gas. Is there a way that we can see that at

least the State institutions don't go in the wrong direction? I guess we're opening

it up for the entire Somerset County area. I'm a bit concerned.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I understand your concern. But I mean,

this has been, this has been in the works for I think five years. This has, I think

this clean natural gas is much better than burning crude oil and burning trees --

TREASURER KOPP: Yes, I --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- step in the right direction and all the

things that Administrator Glass just talked about is I think doing a lot to improve

the environment. And I think we're already obligated to Chesapeake Utilities

with a \$1 million a year commitment from the State for not closing. So there's no

budgetary concerns. And I think they have addressed all the environmental

concerns. I think it's much, much better for the environment and I think we ought

to move forward. But I understand if there are concerns we ought to talk about

them.

TREASURER KOPP: Well, I understand. It is an improvement

and I agree with Senator Mathias, you can't let the perfect be the enemy of the

good and we have to do something. But I'm not quite sure I understand how we

can do this and still have some control over the type, the origin of the gas that we

are using and meet the mandated greenhouse gas goals that you and the

Legislature and everyone have subscribed to and enacted into law, where this fits

in.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm not sure we're going to be able to

resolve all of that today at this meeting. But it's a great discussion to have.

TREASURER KOPP: Has the Department of the Environment, the

Head of the Climate Change Commission, taken a stand on this?

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: I mean, they have been talking about this project since 2015. I'm not sure now is the time to bring up these issues. But I don't have any of those folks here to talk to you about it.

TREASURER KOPP: Well, this is the only time I've been voting on it.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Could I just comment, Governor,

Madam Treasurer? You probably have forgotten. But I was the Subcommittee

Chairman in Appropriations many years ago --

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- that approved the wood chip

TREASURER KOPP: I know.

thing.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: We thought it was --

TREASURER KOPP: -- it was a great --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So it's your fault.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- you know, a great idea. It turned out to be not so great, I guess. But I think, I thought I saw just recently that the largest gas fracking company in the world are filing for bankruptcy. They are ironically named Chesapeake Energy and they are based out in Oklahoma. But the whole fracking industry right now is going through a significant

shrinking. But obviously, the Treasurer always is correct in saying we want to

pay attention to the future. I don't really think this is the do we support fracking

or not type of issue that we need to resolve right now. And I know --

TREASURER KOPP: I guess that's really my question. Can we

go forward with a design of the pipeline, etcetera, and not be committed to

continue to discuss the question of the origin, the nature of the gas? It has to go to

the PSC anyhow. We don't know. No one knows. No one can answer.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- with this with the Treasurer's

caveats, and I think there's a good one, that you need to keep us in the loop as far

as is this renewable or is this just, you know --

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- it was attached to this thing. I

would be interested in that. But I do think the fracking industry as a whole is, you

know, on a, you know, it's not hanging by a thread but it's in a very fragile

economic situation.

TREASURER KOPP: Well, that would be good.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any other questions on this item? Any

other questions on the remainder of the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Is there a second? I'll second. This is, I think we took the budget items off. So this is the remainder of the Secretary's Agenda. It's been moved and seconded. All those in favor?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Aye.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Aye.

TREASURER KOPP: Aye, with the understanding we'll continue to pursue this question of not using fracked gas.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Sure. I'm sure the PSC will take a look at those concerns. Now we're going to move on to the DNR Real Property Agenda.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Hi, good morning, Governor and Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, I'm Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. And we have six items on our Real Property Agenda today for which we are seeking approval. And we're happy to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well, good morning, Madam Secretary.

Are there any questions on the DNR Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: If there aren't, I'd move approval. But it's always good to have the Secretary with us. And thank you for doing a great job. Because I know people are flooding the parks right now.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Yes --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: This weekend will be busy.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Yes, for sure.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Is there a second on the DNR Agenda

motion, Madam Treasurer?

TREASURER KOPP: I would second that. I'm sorry, Madam

Secretary, we never seem to have anything to pick at you on. But thank you.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: I'm okay with that.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm sure we'll find something, though.

We'll work hard. So it's been moved and seconded. The vote is three-nothing.

We'll move up next to the University System Agenda. And I want to welcome

Tom Hickey, who is presenting the University Agenda for the first time, I think.

He has taken over for Joe Evans, who retired last month. So we're sorry to see

Joe go after so long, but we're very happy to welcome you, Mr. Hickey. And

thank you for joining us.

MR. HICKEY: Thank you, Governor, good morning to you, to the

Treasurer, Comptroller Franchot. I'm representing the University System of

Maryland. We are presenting seven items for your consideration. We are

withdrawing Item 7. And I have a team of people backing me up to answer any

questions you may have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Are there any questions on the University

System Agenda? Is there a motion?

TREASURER KOPP: Could I just ask one brief question? The School of Public Policy, you are still going forward with working on the School of Public Policy, right?

MR. HICKEY: That is correct. Madam Treasurer, we should be bringing that item back at the first meeting in August.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you. Thank you, Governor.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I would move approval unless there are other questions. And I was glad you asked that one, Madam Treasurer.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Is there a second?

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. The motion carries three to nothing. We'll move on to the Department of Transportation Agenda.

MR. SLATER: Good morning, or I'm sorry, good afternoon, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Governor, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, my name is Greg Slater, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation. And the Maryland Department of Transportation is presenting 12 items today for your consideration. I am here as well as representatives to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: My question is, what is the traffic going to be like on the Bay Bridge this weekend for the Fourth of July?

MR. SLATER: You know, we're planning to space it out a little bit. But we expect some increased traffic. But of course, this year's holiday comes with a different kind of safety challenge and health threat. So you're going to see some of that messaging in what we do as well.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. Thank you very much. Any questions on the Transportation Agenda?

TREASURER KOPP: Governor, I just want to thank the Secretary. Your CFO Jaclyn Hartman joined us yesterday, the Secretary and the Comptroller and DLS and I, in talking to the rating agencies and bringing them up to date with what's happening with the finances, the P3, and the Purple Line. I appreciate that very much. It's a difficult issue and we're not going to go into it right here, but I just want to thank you for having her there.

MR. SLATER: Thank you so much, Madam Treasurer. She does a wonderful job for us.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, let me just second the Treasurer. Because that was a potential thorn in the side of our application.

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And she handled it very expertly. Obviously, there are still some big uncertainties out there but you know, she indicated that you guys were going to be down in revenues like I think \$500 million last year, \$500 million again this year that we've just entered. So she

really kind of set the groundwork and calmed down everybody's questions. And so thank you. I agree with the Treasurer.

MR. SLATER: Excellent.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Thanks for both, thanks to both of you for giving the compliment to his department. Any other questions on the Secretary's Agenda or is there a motion?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, three-nothing on Transportation.

We're going to move to Department of General Services.

MR. CHURCHILL: Good afternoon, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, I'm Ellington Churchill, Secretary for the Maryland Department of General Services. Today we have 33 items on our Agenda for your consideration, including one supplemental. And we are withdrawing Item 18. And we are available to answer any questions you may have at this time.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Anybody have questions on the DGS Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I have a lot of confidence in the Secretary. I just want to make sure your staff continues to work with my staff on this emergency procurement, you know, oversight, I guess. And thank you for

what's going on. And I just want to make sure that at the next meeting we have

some kind of presentation.

MR. CHURCHILL: Yes. We are continuing to update the Board

staff. I do want to thank the Comptroller's Office and the Treasurer's Office for

the assistance. And we're going to get all the information that is required so that

this can be reviewed by the Board. So thank you for your cooperation and

patience.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. Is

there a motion on DGS?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Three-nothing. Thank you very much.

That concludes today's Board meeting. I want to thank my colleagues and I thank

everybody for joining us, and we'll look forward to seeing you in a couple of

weeks. Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you, Governor.

(Whereupon, at 12:07 p.m., the meeting was concluded.)